

IN THE CLAIMS

10/501304

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{Claim 1} ~~.(Currently Amended)~~ An antifriction rolling bearing with its an outer race ring having an inner race surface for rolling engagement with a plurality of roller members and formed as divided in a radial direction from two portions having stepped ends comprised of abutting radially inner portions and radial outer portions joined by generally cylindrical portions , wherein the dividing portion of the race ring is formed so that the dividing line is formed in a crankshaft shape as seen in the axial direction, the dividing surfaces of the dividing portion located on the race surface side are in contact with each other in the state of being attached to object members for attachment, and a clearance is formed between the dividing surfaces on the said radially outer portions opposite side of the race surface.

{Claim 2} ~~.(Currently Amended)~~ The antifriction rolling bearing of claim 1, wherein a surface finishing process is applied to the race surface in the state of when the race ring halves being combined portions are held together with the inner stepped portions are held in abutment.

{Claim 3} ~~.(Currently Amended)~~ A crankshaft bearing wherein the rolling bearing of as set forth in claim 1 or 2, in combination with a crankshaft with its outer race ring serving as an outer ring, is attached to encircling a crankcase, a race surface is formed on a crankshaft, and the crankshaft is supported with the race ring through rolling interposed roller members.

Claim 4. (Newly added) A method of forming an antifriction bearing comprising the steps of forming an outer race ring having an inner race surface for rolling engagement with a plurality of roller members and divided into two portions having stepped ends comprised of abutting radially inner portions and radial outer portions joined by generally cylindrical portions, and forming a clearance formed between the radially outer portions.

Claim 5. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 4 further including the step of applying a surface finishing process is applied to the race surface when the race ring portions are held together with the inner stepped portions are held in abutment.